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30 July 1959
Control No. 156/55

MEMORANDUM FOR: Department of Commerce DCP Member (Attn: John Collins)
Department of the Treasury DCP Member
Department of State DCP Member

FROM : CIA DCP Member

SUBJECT : Japanese Attempts to Obtain Technical Plans
for the Manufacture of Transistors.

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ATTACHMENT : 

1. Permission has been granted to disseminate the attached report to Foreign Service posts in Japan and to the Departments of Commerce and Treasury for ACTION classified CONFIDENTIAL, and to Paris USIS and DCP for DACHURUS USN ONLY classified CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN. Extreme caution is urged in the use of this information due to the sensitivity of the source.

2. It is requested that where CIA source descriptions or numbers are known, no mention of these be made in any further dissemination of this material. Please advise this Agency of the use made of the information contained in this report.

3. We have been informed by the Department of Commerce that RCA has licensed silicon transistor data to Hitachi. It is considered quite likely that Western Electric has also licensed some transistor data to the Japanese firm. Source comment 2 is obviously confused with respect to the utilization of germanium and silicon transistors. It is possible that investigation by Commerce, Treasury or Embassy Tokyo can identify more specifically the desired end product (transistor) by type and characteristics.

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CC: Chairman, DCP

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